payments have not been made for the feature films telecast in the national network during the last 3 years. The main reasons for delay in payment are pending court cases or receipt of counter claims for payment. Payment can be made only after the final judgement from the court or after settlement of alleged claims by various parties.

Telecast of Feature Films

6745. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of feature films selected for telecast in near future;

(b) the number of proposals of feature films pending clearance;

(c) whether the selected films fulfill the requisite conditions; and

(d) if not, the reasons for such selections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Selection of feature films for telecast over Doordarshan is a continuing process. Even after the films are selected, they are scheduled for telecast only after completion of the procedural formalities which include verification of rights, verification of the technical quality of the print etc. 18 feature films have been provisionally scheduled for telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi during the month of September, 1991.

(b) 415 proposals are pending clearance.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Atomic Power Plant in U.P.

6746. SHRI SURESHANAND SWAMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had conducted any survey for setting up of Atomic Power Plant at Kasimpur in Etah district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and when this survey was conducted and the result thereof; and

(c) the time by which now the Government propose to set up Atomic Power Plant at Kasimpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*English*]

Loan Licensing Scheme for Drug Units

6747. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government propose to extend the loan licensing scheme for drug units in the small scale sector beyond December 31, 1991;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware of the misuse of the scheme leading to proliferation of bad quality drugs in the market; and

(c) the corrective steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS. (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c). There has been no change in the Government decision to dis-continue the loan licensing system in drug sector beyond 31.12.1991. However a number of representations have been received from the Industry which are being examined.

[*Translation*]

Price of Salt

6748.SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of salt has been increased inspite of its very good production in country this year;

(b) if so, the dates on which the prices of Salt have been increased during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government have taken any action to encourage the production of salt in the last three years and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to formulate any long-term scheme with regard to check the smuggling of salt to various countries and to encourage the production thereof; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). There has been no increase in the overall retail prices of salt this year. However, the retail prices of salt have marginally increased this year as compared to the previous three years due to various factors such as increase in the freight, handling charges, local transport and the cost of packaging material.

(c) to (e). Various steps have been taken by the Government to increase salt production. These include bringing more areas under salt cultivation, optimum utilisation of salt lands by adopting scientific production techniques. Possibilities of exploiting the salt potential of the Great Rann of Kutch are also being explored as a long term measures to increase salt production.

Government have not received any report about smuggling of salt. However, the concerned State Governments have already been advised to take appropriate action in the regard.

[*English*]

Drug Policy

6749. SHRI C.P. MUDALA GIRIYAPPA:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to announce significant changes in the Drug Policy with a view to revise it and the accompanying price control mechanism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions proposed by the drug industry for inclusion in the new drug policy; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZ-